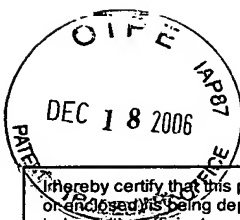


JPW

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Docket No. SPINE 3.0-436 CIP CIP CONT	
Application No. 10/725,305-Conf. #2899	Filing Date December 1, 2003	Examiner Pellegrino, Brian E.	Art Unit 3738		
Applicant(s): James D. Ralph and Stephen Tatar					
Invention: INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER DEVICE UTILIZING A SPIRALLY SLOTTED BELLEVILLE WASHER HAVING RADially EXTENDING GROOVES					
TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	17	- 20 =	0	x 50.00	0.00
Independent Claims	3	- 3 =	0	x 200.00	0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:					0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>12-1095</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 Michael J. Doherty Attorney/Agent Reg. No.: 40,592				Dated: <u>December 12, 2006</u>	
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG, KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP 600 South Avenue West Westfield, New Jersey 07090 (908) 518-6337					
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.					
Dated: December 12, 2006		Signature: (Michael J. Doherty)			



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dated: December 12, 2006

Signature: Michael J. Doherty

(Michael J. Doherty)

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-436 CIP CIP CONT
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ralph et al.

Application No.: 10/725,305

Filed: December 1, 2003

For: INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER DEVICE:
UTILIZING A SPIRALLY SLOTTED:
BELLEVILLE WASHER HAVING
RADIALLY EXTENDING GROOVES

:
:
:
:
: Group Art Unit: 3738
:
: Examiner: Pellegrino,
Brian E.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 13, 2006, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.